PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Reissue Application of: BILL L. DAVIS and JESSE S. WILLIAMSON	§	
For Reissue of U. S. Patent 5,630,363 Issued May 20, 1997 Serial No. 08/515,097	§	Group Art Unit: 2854
Filing Date: May 20, 1999	§	Examiner: S. Funk J. Hilten
Serial No.: 09/315,796	§	
For: COMBINED LITHOGRAPHIC/ FLEXOGRAPHIC PRINTING APPARATUS AND PROCESS	§	

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DECLARATION OF STEVE M. GARNER

TO: The Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

I, Steve M. Garner, declare on my oath the following:

1. "I am over twenty-one (21) years of age, have never been convicted of a felony, and am competent to make this testimony. I am Regional Sales Manager, South Central Region for Harris and Bruno (Central Office: Roseville, California). I reside at 209 Mill Creek Drive, Arlington, Texas 76010. My curriculum vitae is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

2. "I was employed by Printing Research, Inc. ("PRI") from about April of 1994 through March of 2000. From the time I came to work until January 1997, I was Vice President of Sales for PRI, thereafter President through January 1998, and have held various other positions at PRI from January 1998 until my departure at the end of March, 2000.

3. "During the second half of 1994, during my tenure as Vice President of Sales of PRI, John Bird reported to me as Sales Manager. It became known to me during the summer of 1994 that Williamson Printing Corporation ("WPC") was seeking to purchase a number of IR and UV dryers for its new Heidelberg presses, the first of which was scheduled to arrive in late 1994. WPC's investment in a series of offset lithographic presses represented a double

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opportunity to PRI – first to sell dryers and other after-market equipment to WPC, and second, to establish ourselves with Heidelberg Drucksmachinen A.G. and its American subsidiary Heidelberg U.S.A., Inc. as a supplier of drying systems. John Bird brought to PRI some "rack-back" blanket / plate coater technology, and PRI had available for sale as of mid-1994 a linear rack-back coater for end-of-press application.

4. There came a time during the fall of 1994 that John Bird came to me indicating that WPC wanted for us to go with a flexographic rack-back device up front in one or more of the forthcoming Heidelberg presses to be installed at WPC, instead of at the end, as they had always previously been installed. Bird did not tell me who the inventors were of the process – whether they were employees of WPC or PRI employees. At this time, I don't recall being told about the WIMS process of WPC, which issued shortly thereafterwards on December 6, 1994 as U.S. Pat. 5,370,976 (Jesse Williamson and others at WPC).

5. In October of 1994, PRI ran some tests for Rexham, a packaging converter company in Charlotte, North Carolina. We printed some metallic gold inks for Rexham as samples, some of which were preprinted. These were printed using an anilox roller at the end of PRI's two-color ("2/c") press. We were testing the gold inks for borders for cigarette carton customers. We later converted their end-of-press tower coater to an anilox coater. I showed some of our solid gold work on cigarette carton stock to Jesse Williamson in October, 1994.

6. PRI started in earnest the design and fabrication of an experimental "ferris wheel" or cantilevered, interstation "long-arm" "rack-back" device in the late fall of 1994. I recall blueprints of the device starting in December of 1994, with Ron Rendleman starting to make parts for the PRI 2/c press in December. At about that time, Bill Davis, of WPC, brought some Cyrel™ (duPont) flexographic plates over to PRI, with a design stating, "Williamson Printing Corporation", wanting tests using our anilox roller end-of-press coater equipped with these Cyrel™ plates so that Bill could ascertain if the plates had satisfactory resolution and he could determine the degree of registration problems he would have with the new process – putting the flexography printing step first. At about this time (December 1994), Rendleman began a "short-arm" modification in anticipation of an installation on WPC coater tower.

7. In January of 1995, I was in Heidelberg, Germany at the Holiday Inn when Bill Davis came up to me, telling me something about some extraordinary results they had achieved at the plant of Heidelberg Drucksmachinen A.G. demonstrating a flexography step first compared to the older way that they had done it (WIMS), for some Rolex advertisements. I was encouraged by this, but would not know until March 20, 1995 when I saw some tests run at Williamson Printing Corporation how this would perform with PRI anilox coater.

8. In late February 1995, PRI installed our "short-arm" "rack-back" device on one of the coater towers, a new Heidelberg press at WPC. On or about March 20, 1995, I saw some tests run simulating the new process of WPC using the "short-arm" PRI pilot device concerning a middle-age advertisement – involving the Crusader, as I recall – using a flexographic step followed by multiple lithographic steps. Bill Davis and Jim Johnson were in control, giving directions to subordinates concerning the use of flexographic plates, flexographic inks and the negatives.

9. At no time during 1994, 1995, 1996 or 1997 did I ever hear Howard DeMoore, John Bird, Ron Rendleman, or anyone else at PRI ever indicate that the process of using a flexographic step prior to offset lithography was a PRI process or that they invented such a process, or any one of them invented such a process. After becoming aware of the Williamson's WIMS ('976) process, there was never a doubt in my mind that the process of using a flexographic step first originated at WPC. PRI did, however, after DRUPA 95 (starting May 5, 1995), demonstrate to several clients the feasibility of applying a flexographic material as a first down with the idea of overprinting litho in-line. This, of course, could only be demonstrated as multiple passes since PRI had only a 2/c press.

10. In April of 1995, after installation of the experimental pilot "short-arm" device at Williamson, PRI ordered from a local printer – Buchanan Lithographics, as I recall – some brochures concerning a proposed interstation "ferris wheel" or cantilevered "rack-back". Williamson had committed orally to us in February of 1995 to purchase at least one interstation "rack-back" which was currently in design along with the "short-arm", cantilevered device. PRI obtained, as I recall, a firm commitment to go ahead with the construction of the device in May 1995. I recall that as of the DRUPA conference at the start of May 1995, apart from the short-

arm device made for WPC, all we had was our brochures, a few parts made by Rendleman for the "long-arm" device for the forthcoming PRI interstation press to be installed at WPC and some blueprints. By late August 1995, we had something ready to sell to Williamson in the form of an interstation unit. The normal gestation time to make such a device would be 90-110 days. I do not recall seeing anything in writing or otherwise at PRI concerning the "long-arm" proposed interstation device prior to December 1994, -- no invention records, no memoranda, no notebooks, no emails, no designs, no blueprints, no advertisements and no parts. Again, prior to DRUPA 95 (May 5, 1995), all we had was Williamson's commitment to go forward with the interstation design and the "short-arm", end-of-press device installed at WPC. To the best of my knowledge, the first time the process taught by Davis-Williamson (U.S. Pat. 5,630,363) was ever actually reduced to practice in this country was performed by Williamson Printing Corporation at their facility in Dallas shortly after the installation of our first "long-arm" device in late August or early September, 1995. Prior to that time, the process had only, to the best of my knowledge, been simulated (multiple passes with the flexography step first) by Williamson Printing Corporation in this country in March 1995 (the Brian Liester "Crusaders" poster) and perhaps in Germany in January 1995, but not by PRI because of the limitations of our 2/c press unit.

11. The Buchanan printed brochures in late April 1995 for DRUPA were very memorable. They were not printed using a flexography step first. They were printed to be available for distribution at the DRUPA Show in Germany scheduled to start May 5, 1995. PRI filed its patent application directed to a ferris wheel/cantilevered device on May 4, 1995, to protect the company's patent rights. At the DRUPA Show in Germany, I recall we had a non-working model of the proposed "ferris wheel" or cantilevered, "long-armed" device on the first unit of a mock-up 2/c press.

12. During late 1998, I became involved with a potential sale of a cantilevered "long-armed" device to Hallmark Company. Hallmark knew about the WIMS patent, U.S. Pat. 5,370,976. Hallmark's attorneys found U.S. Pat. 5,630,363 to Davis and Williamson and brought it to PRI's attention. I am not aware of any attempt on the part of Hallmark or PRI to approach Williamson to purchase a license to the '363 patent for Hallmark to use the '363 process. Howard DeMoore, who owns PRI and is in control of PRI, made a decision not to pay

WPC for a license on the grounds, as I understood at the time, that he had been involved in 1994 through 1995 in the design of the cantilevered "rack-back" device to be used in that process -- in DeMoore's words, he "enabled" them to use the process --, and on that basis, he reasoned he should not have to pay WPC any money.

The undersigned Declarant stated further that all statements made herein of Declarant's own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

Steve M Garner

Steve M. Garner

April 6, 2000

Date:

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STEVE MART GARNER

209 Mill Creek Drive
Arlington, Texas 76010
(817) 265-8375

EDUCATION: UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
B.S., Mechanical Engineering (Minor: Chemistry)

MILITARY: U.S. COAST GUARD (Enlisted), Honorable Discharge

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE:

1994 – Present **PRINTING RESEARCH, INC., Dallas TX**

$12,000,000 company producing custom designed accelerated drying systems, i.e., infrared, ultraviolet, forced hot air, for the printing and converting industry. Company's original product was an innovative anti-marking system (Super Blue) still utilized on many sheet fed litho presses

'98 – Pres. **Sales Director – OEM Accounts**
Promote sale of capital equipment to the commercial sheet fed and flexo corrugated printer manufacturers. Obtain vendor certification for companies' products with major OEM accounts.

'97 – '98 **President, COO**
Assumed President position – duties remained same.

'96 – '97 **Executive Vice President, Operations**
Assumed overall operational responsibilities with the objective of developing the organization infrastructure to support the growing capital product line. This involved physical plant expansion and technical staffing for engineering, manufacturing and R & D. Continued to oversee the company's marketing programs.

'94 – '96 **Vice President, Sales & Marketing**
Directed the efforts of the domestic (US and Canada) direct sales group consisting of National Sales Manager, Product Manager, and five regional sales personnel during the expansion of the product line to include capital equipment sales. Responsible for coordinating the activities of the international dealer network in the continuing marketing of the original Super Blue product and the introduction of a new generation product improvement to major OEM's. Oversaw the advertising and trade show activities.

1990 – 1994 **SUN GRAPHIC TECHNOLOGIES, Fort Worth TX**

U.S. Subsidiary corporation for a Japanese publishing organization. Established in 1990 with the primary objectives of developing, designing and marketing new technology specifically for the Graphic Art Industry.

Vice President
Responsibilities included directing efforts of 10 engineers and technicians in the development and testing of new products for the improvement of printing quality with decreased environmental impact. Developed marketing programs for the sale and distribution of proven products into the domestic and international marketplace. Three patents issued for temperature control systems for offset printing presses.

1986 – 1990 **EPIC PRODUCTS CORPORATION, Dallas TX**

$8,000,000 company involved in the design, manufacture and marketing of custom designed equipment for the printing and converting market.

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Vice Pres[illegible] – Sales & Marketing
Duties inv[illegible] the direct sale of all products in the U.S. as [illegible] as overseeing and coordinating activities of international dealers in both Japan and Europe. Clients were printing and publishing companies as well as OEM accounts. Sales revenues increased an average of 20% per year during tenure.

1986 **CONSOLIDATED ENGRAVERS CORPORATION, Charlotte NC**
$25,000,000 company serving the converting, packaging and textile industries in the production of engraved cylinders for printing, coating and embossing.

General Manager, Southwest Plant, Lancaster TX
Responsibilities included regional sales activity and plant production. Facility staffed 25 personnel involved in engraving, manufacturing and electroplating of anilox rollers used in the converting industry. Clients included major packaging operations in the corrugated, paperboard, film and foil industries.

1973 – 1985 **DAHLGREN INTERNATIONAL, Dallas TX**
$25,000,000 company manufacturing custom designed equipment for printing and paper converting industry.

'84 – '85 **General Manager – Europe**
Responsible for the parent company's European operations, which included a sales-service office in Brussels, Belgium and a manufacturing subsidiary in Augsburg, West Germany. The markets served by this operation included printing and publishing companies as well as the major OEMs producing equipment for worldwide distribution.

'82 – '84 **Vice-President – Product Development**
Responsibilities included management of all engineering groups, i.e., design engineering, production engineering and manufacturing engineering. In addition, coordinated activities related to the evaluation, design and testing of new products.

'78 – '82 **Vice-President – Sales**
Responsible for company total sales activities, which included five domestic regional sales managers, OEM sales, converting equipment sales, sales-service offices in Europe and Japan. Participated in the development and implementation of marketing plans for all company products, including budgets, projections, forecasts, dealer training, advertising and trade show participation.

'73 – '78 **International Marketing Manager**
Coordinated sales and marketing activities for company's European Branch office in Brussels, Belgium. In 1975, assumed full managerial responsibility for office, including P & L, Technical Support Staff, and Sales/Marketing expansion. Set up Dealer/Distribution Program in major European countries. During this time, the European branch grew to produce from less than 10% to over 50% of company's total revenue.

END